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HOW THE METROPOLITAN GOT DARE LUMBER CO.

Ora Tale That Might be Entitled, "How The Dare Lumber Co. Got The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co."

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. who fell heir to \$6,000,000 of bonds of the Dare Lumber Co. and who had the property sold at public auction last Saturday to recover as best it could, finds itself the purchaser of the property. The Metropolitan's bid for the timber holdings, pulpwood mill, logging equipment and other property in Dare County was \$800,000. Their bid for the big saw mill and other property at Elizabeth City was \$100,000, making a total of \$900,000 for property bonded for six times its probable worth. There was no other bid for the property. There were representatives of a number of lumber concerns and machinery houses at the sale, making a show of interest. But no one put in a bid. The property was knocked down promptly upon the bid of Frank Ewing, of New York, attorney for the life insurance company.

If no one raises the bid by June 29, the sale of the property will be confirmed and title will pass to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Just what the company expects to do with the property is not generally known. It is not probable that a life insurance company with billions of assets will go into the manufacture of North Carolina pine lumber. It is altogether probable that the company has a prospective purchaser for the property and that Elizabeth City will again see this big industry in operation at an early date. It is certain that the Metropolitan will not see such valuable property lie idle for many months.

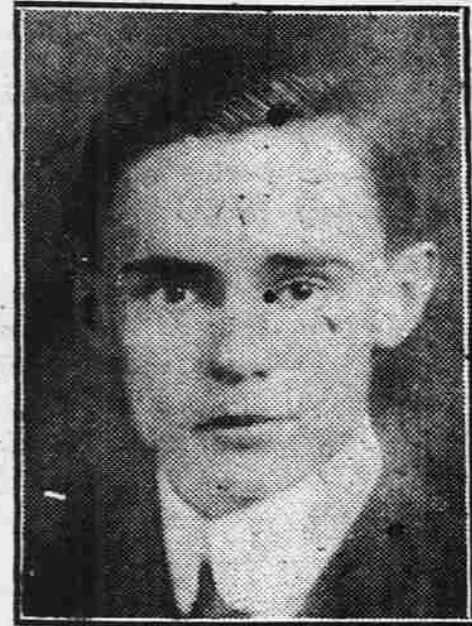
Winfield A. Worth is the resident attorney of the Metropolitan company and handled all of the details of advertising and sale of the property. In a quiet way Mr. Worth has learned a lot about the timber business in eastern North Carolina and this is not the only big deal in which he has figured in recent months.

High Financing

How the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. fell into the Dare Lumber Co. is one of the interesting chapters in the history of American finance. Back in 1917 Geo. F. Montgomery, J. A. Birdseye and his son Kellogg Birdseye, of New York, acquired a controlling interest in the Dare Lumber Co. The senior Birdseye was one of the shrewdest lawyers in New York and Montgomery was the type of man to follow any kind of a lawyer. Having got hold of the Dare Lumber Co. their problem was how to get rid of it and make the most out of it. They concocted a marvelous scheme. The property was conceded to be worth probably a million dollars. They issued bonds on the property in the sum of \$6,000,000. Of course, they couldn't sell the bonds, but out in Pittsburgh, Pa. there was a loose little life insurance company with a lot of perfectly good bonds in its vaults. Birdseye & Son and Montgomery worked themselves into the Pittsburgh Life Insurance Co. and got themselves elected officers. Having gotten on the inside they took \$6,000,000 worth of perfectly good bonds out of its vaults and traded in their \$6,000,000 Dare Lumber Co. bonds for them. They disposed of the par value bonds and left the Pittsburgh Life with so many bonds worth about 15 cents on the dollar. That little fact wrecked the Pittsburgh Life. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. was the underwriter of the Pittsburgh Life Insurance Co. and, in the wreck of the Pittsburgh Life, fell heir to the bonds

of the Dare Lumber Co. And that's how the biggest life insurance company in America comes into ownership of the biggest saw mill property in Elizabeth City and vicinity.

STRONG FOR CARTER GLASS



MARSHALL H. JONES

THE Hon. Carter Glass has one strong booster in Elizabeth City who lies awake nights worrying because Glass wasn't born in Ohio. "If Carter Glass had only been born in New York or Ohio instead of Virginia, the party would have to nominate him and he would sweep the country in the presidential election," declares Marshall Jones. Mr. Jones is assistant cashier of the First & Citizens National Bank.

PURCHASE SITE FOR COTTON WAREHOUSE

Farmers Expect to Dictate The Price
They Shall Be Paid For Their
Product

The Pasquotank Warehouse Association, branch of the American Cotton Association, has purchased the W. A. Carter property on South Road St., on the S. & C. R. R. in this city and will build a cotton storage warehouse on the property this summer. An architect will be employed to submit plans and specifications for the proposed building at an early date. The price paid for the property was \$7,000.

With cotton storage facilities already afforded by the Elizabeth City Cotton Mills, this warehouse will give the farmers of this county and vicinity unsurpassed storage facilities. The farmer can store his cotton in this warehouse, take a receipt therefor and borrow money on his warehouse receipts, being relieved of the necessity of selling his cotton on a low market. With thousands of similar warehouses throughout the south, the cotton farmers expect to dictate the price of their product.

Join the 500 Club and get this newspaper for a dollar a year.

LANDOWNERS TO MEET HERE ON JULY FIRST

The North Carolina Landowners Association will hold a meeting at the Courthouse in Elizabeth City, Thursday, July 1. Prominent speakers will address the meeting and farmers and business men generally are invited.

The Landowners Association is an organization formed for the purpose of forwarding the growth and development of the state, better school, better roads, increased live stock production, the eradication of the malaria mosquito and the cattle tick.

PERQUIMANS COUNTY BOY GETTING IN THE MOVIES

Perquimans county boys find their way into every calling under the sun, but it has remained for J. R. Hough, a son of C. H. Hough, of Durants Neck, Perquimans County, to break into the moving picture game. Young Mr. Hough has gone into training with the Avilene Film Corporation, of New York City, and expects to sign with that outfit after the prescribed course of training. Mr. Hough has been in charge of the Baltimore office of the Master Production Corp., of South Bend, Ind.

BLOW AT H. C. L.

Another blow at the High Cost of Living will be struck by M. Leigh Sheep Co., the popular woman's wear shop, by the inauguration of a sweeping price reduction throughout the entire store, which they term a General Clearance Sale and which begins Saturday, June 26.

As it now seems highly probable that prices on many commodities will not be lower as early as government propagandists would have us believe, many wise purchasers will no doubt take advantage of this sale for present and future needs.

The advertisement on another page of this newspaper is worth investigating.

Join the 500 Club and get this newspaper for a dollar a year.

Something We Can Do For You?



LUCIAN L. MORRISSETTE

THIS pair of youngsters bid fair to be heard from in the commercial world. Without any previous experience in business management they took over the grocery business of Morrisette & Perry on Pointexter St. about four years ago and made a go of it from the start. They have built up one of the best little retail groceries in this city or section and are going good. To begin with, they knew the grocery business and the grocery trade; they had worked first and last in the best groceries in town ever since they began to learn how to work, which was early in life. And so when they embarked in business for themselves they just picked up string after string of old customers who knew them for their promptness, courtesy and attention to details.



EUGENE M. RAPER

GREAT FEAT OF FREIGHT AGENT

Biggest Potato Movement Here
Handled Without a Hitch

Exactly 135,927 barrels of new Irish potatoes had been shipped from Elizabeth City at the close of business at the Norfolk Southern freight depot Wednesday night and heavy shipments are still going forward, though the end of the season is in sight.

The bulk of these potatoes were handled last week, as many as 108 car loads having moved in one day. The movement this week has dropped to 30 to 35 cars a day or 6,000 to 7,000 barrels.

Produce men and shippers generally are commending the phenomenal work of young A. R. Nicholson, the Norfolk Southern freight agent at this city. Since the potato season began, labor troubles and the perversity of things generally, Mr. Nicholson has handled the biggest potato business in the history of this section, without a hitch. Somehow he has always managed to get cars, get them loaded and moved out on time.

In order to handle this immense volume of potatoes Mr. Nicholson has carried on his pay roll at times as many as 186 freight handlers. Many of these were just mere boys, since not enough men were available for the work. Many of the youngsters have cleaned up \$30 to \$40 a week for their work and would be jazziing around in automobiles if the season held out.

This crop means better than a million dollars—probably nearly a million and a half dollars—for the growers of this section. Prices have held good throughout the season. Many interesting stories could be told of how old time speculators missed their guess on this crop. Early in the season some of them plunged heavily and contracted for tens of thousands of barrels of potatoes at prices ranging from \$4.50 to \$6.00 a barrel, only to get cold feet and turn them loose at a profit of 25 to 50 cents a barrel before the market opened at \$10 a barrel and better, holding its own day after day. Farmers who sold their crop in advance made money, but would have made twice as much by standing pat. Those who waited struck a bonanza. And so it goes with the potato crop, the biggest gambling institution on the South Atlantic seaboard.

BOY DROWNED

George Spencer, a colored boy, in bathing opposite the Forman-Blades Lumber Co. on Pennsylvania Ave., was drowned Monday afternoon. The body was not recovered until too late for the city's pulmotor to be of use.

TRIAL OF J. E. C. BELL IS AGAIN POSTPONED

Former Shawboro Boy Will Be Tried
For Shortage in Sheriff's Office
in October

The trial of J. E. C. Bell, former sheriff of Vance County, in connection with an alleged shortage in his accounts with the county, has been continued to the October term of the Superior Court of Vance County. Bell was to have been tried this week, but further postponement of the case was asked by the solicitor of the district, who says that new facts in the action makes it necessary for him to have further time in preparing his case.

The bond of \$10,000 under which Bell has been at liberty since last October, has been continued in the same amount. This case is of peculiar interest to the people of this city and section because of the fact that Mr. Bell is a native of Shawboro and was for many years prominent in the social life of this city and section. He removed to Henderson several years ago and easily won a place for himself in Henderson and Vance County. He was always a popular fellow and whiskey and fast companions tripped him, causing him to muddle the affairs of his office. The first news of his alleged shortage came as a distinct shock to those who knew him in this city.

FIRE AT WANCHESE BURNS WAREHOUSE

A fire supposed to have been started by a careless cigarette smoker destroyed the freight warehouse and several hundred dollars worth of freight at Wanchese, Roanoke Island, Wednesday night. The freight house was the property of E. B. Daniels and used by the Daniels Line.

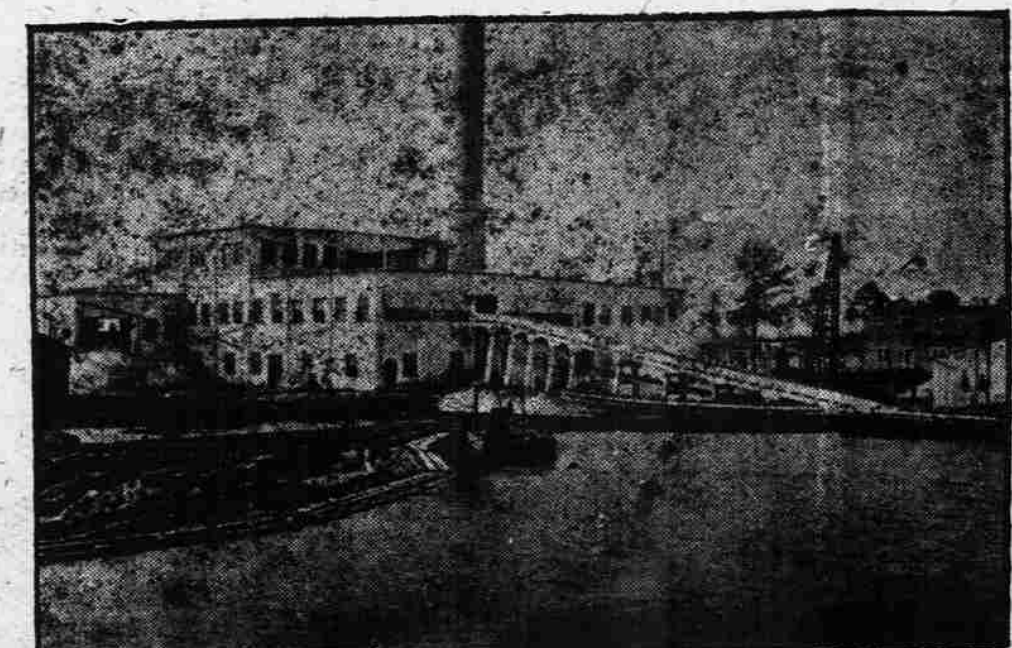
EX-SOLDIERS CAN NOW REINSTATE INSURANCE

Government insurance policies held by ex-service men which have lapsed through non-payment of premiums must be reinstated by next Wednesday, June 30th, any former soldier, sailor, or marine who wishes to renew or convert his war risk insurance should see Sidney G. Etheridge at the Apothecary Shop before the above date. Mr. Etheridge, who is war risk insurance officer for the Seth E. Perry post of the American Legion, will be glad to assist any ex-service man whether or not he is a member of the legion, in making application for the renewal of his Government insurance.

WILL PRESENT A PLAY AT FORK HIGH SCHOOL

The concert class of the Odd Fellows Orphanage at Goldsboro will present the play, "A Kentucky Belle" at Fork High School near this city Friday night, June 25th. An admission fee of 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children will be charged at the play, which has pleased audiences here and elsewhere in the State.

The Dare Lumber Co. Saw Mill



HERE is a picture of the big steel and concrete saw mill of the Dare Lumber Co. at Elizabeth City which is now owned by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York. Particulars of the deal by which the Metropolitan comes into ownership of the property will be found in another column.

WHY NOT JOIN THE 500 CLUB?

Costs you only \$10 now for a ten year membership in THE INDEPENDENT family, giving you this \$2 a year paper ten years for \$10—just a dollar a year.

Show your faith in your home paper and your desire for a better paper by sending your check now for a ten year subscription.

Only 500 subscriptions are offered at this price and the publisher offers them only because money is needed for certain permanent improvements in the paper itself. Help to make these improvements possible and get your paper at this reduced price NOW. Obey that impulse. Who else will give you more for your ten dollars?

TO CELEBRATE FOURTH OF JULY

Races, Fireworks, Tent Shows
And Other Lively Events

A Fourth of July celebration without the usual accompaniment of dust, discomfort and thirst to mar the pleasure of the day is promised for those who come to this city Monday, July 5th for celebration of Independence Day. Public drinking fountains are now being installed in various parts of the city, and an abundance of benches and chairs will be placed upon the court house green for the comfort of the city's guests at the big festival. A rest room for ladies in the Hinton building will be in charge of a lady who will look after the well-being of the feminine visitors, and give them any desired information, while similar rest rooms will be conducted at the City Drug Store and other readily accessible business establishments here.

The program now being prepared for the Fourth is declared by those in charge to be the best ever arranged for a similar festival in this part of the State. A fireworks display over Pasquotank river on the night of the fifth, which will cost around \$250, will be perhaps the finest exhibition of the kind which North-eastern North Carolina has ever seen. The parade in the morning will include a competition between 25 or more decorated automobiles for a prize of \$50 awarded jointly by the Tidewater Automobile Association and the Southern Motorist, and the winning car will carry the emblem of the Association throughout the day.

An old-time funmaking feature of many Fourth celebrations of former days will be revived in the ragamuffin parade, in which prizes amounting to \$30 will be awarded for the most ridiculous costumes. Many contestants are expected to take part in this feature of the day's doings. Morning and afternoon baseball are promised for the devotees of the great American sport, while a racing program which will begin at two o'clock in the afternoon offers special attraction in view of the fact that an 18-foot paved boulevard connecting with the city paved streets at the foot of Road street assures ready and comfortable access to the New Fair Grounds for motorists. No parking fee will be charged at the grounds, and the racing association gives assurance that the dust nuisance of former years will be entirely done away with.

There will be two days of the races. On the first day, Monday July 5th, three horse races and a bicycle race, the latter for about \$200 worth of prizes, will be staged, and on Tuesday two horse races and a five-mile automobile race, in which any four-cylinder car may enter. The only entrance condition is that entries be made by Wednesday, June 30. Melville's Comedians, clever vaudeville performers, will be here for the entire week of the Fourth, and will stage their clownish antics in a huge \$10,000 tent theatre. There are in no way to be classed with the usual street carnivals, which are forbidden to appear here by edict of the local Board of Aldermen.

In general, everything practicable will be done to make the stay of Fourth of July visitors here this year pleasant and comfortable from every standpoint, and careful attention will be shown to the lady visitors to this city, who have been the severest sufferers during previous Fourth celebrations here. The Fourth program, which is now practically complete, promises something doing all day, and indications point to the biggest Independence Day festival ever staged in this section.

Hathaway Says

If you wear glasses, have your eyes and glasses both examined from time to time, and go to the place where you can afford to pay a reasonable price for real professional work. Remember your eyes are your bread-winners. Take care of them.

You have your teeth examined twice a year. Why not your eyes? They are more important.

Dr. J. D. Hathaway
Optometrist

Phone 999 Bradford Bldg.

NO MONEY PANIC SAY ELIZABETH CITY BANKS

Federal Reserve System Is Working Fine They
Say And Local Bank Resources Were Never
Greater Than Now

There is no money panic, no panic in sight and no possibility of a money panic according to Elizabeth City bankers and any one who is feeling blue about the tightness of money can get his hopes revived—even if he can't get his paper discounted — by talking to the officers of our banks.

If you happened to drop into the First & Citizens National Bank for instance and said something about panic, you would be instantly taken in tow by Marshall H. Jones, assistant cashier and arch optimist of that institution. Jones would start off by telling you that Carter Glass ought to be made President of the United States "and will be if the Democrats nominate him," because Carter Glass was the father of the Federal banking act. And because we have the Federal Reserve system with us—Adoo—there'll be no panic.

Jones will tell you that the Federal Reserve system is responsible for the present money tightness and a guarantee that there will always be a plenty of money for the country's needs and never too much for the country's good. Jones would tell you to you about like this. He would assure you that the tightening up of credit all along the line is a systematic endeavor to discourage unnecessary borrowing and to relieve the country of too much legal tender. There has been altogether too much paper money flying around and money has been getting too cheap. Money has been so easy to get that everybody has been tempted to put out too much money.

Before the Federal Reserve system came into being the money center of the country was Wall Street and Wall Street absolutely controlled the money supply of the country. There never was too much money and now and then there was altogether too little—and panic.

And then the government established the Federal Reserve System with twelve regional banks in twelve strategic centers. These regional banks have the peculiar power of making money available wherever money is needed. They work about like this:

How The System Works
The First & Citizens National Bank of this city, for instance, is a member of the Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond. You want to borrow say \$10,000 and your note properly indorsed is good for \$10,000 at this bank. The bank lends you \$10,000 on your note.

But that bank needs that \$10,000, so the bank shoots your note up to the regional reserve bank at Richmond and gets \$10,000 worth of Federal Reserve Bank Notes for it. It puts these Federal Reserve bank notes in its tills and has \$10,000 to lend to the next fellow who comes along.

Take the paper money out of your pocket and look at it. Chances are, most of the bills are Federal Reserve Bank Notes. You are in the habit of thinking that for every paper dollar you have in your pocket, Uncle Sam has a big silver dollar or a little gold dollar tucked away in a mysterious vault somewhere in the big treasury building in Washington. Some of the bills you used to spend did carry a statement to something like that effect. But that doesn't hold in the case of your Federal Reserve Bank Note. When you hold a Federal Reserve Bank Note the only thing on deposit to back it up is a mortgage on something. Mr. Jones wouldn't put it that way. He would say: "A Federal Reserve Bank Note is backed only by gilt edge notes which in the final analysis represent the real basis for the physical material wealth of the country." Which is but another way of saying the same thing, only it doesn't sound so raw.

Abusing The System

You can readily see how such a system can be abused. John Smith carries his note to the bank and gets \$10,000. The bank trades his note for \$10,000 worth of paper money and lends this money to Tom Brown, taking Tom Brown's note and Tom Brown's note goes up to Richmond in exchange for another \$10,000 worth of paper money which is loaned to some one else. The thing can go on like an endless chain and the country so flooded with paper money that paper money would presently be as cheap as cigarette paper. But it doesn't go on because the framers of the Federal Reserve Act anticipated something like that and gave the Federal Reserve Banks the power to recall this excess of paper money at any time. The Federal Reserve Banks will not lend for a period longer than 90 days and in 90 days they can call in enough loans to restore the balance of things if necessary. That is what the Federal Reserve Banks have been doing these past six months. Altogether too much paper money, too many Federal Reserve Bank Notes, had gotten into circulation, threatening the thrift and sanity of the nation. And so the Federal Reserve Banks began to tighten up and all the banks dependent upon the Federal Reserve system had to tighten up along with them.

The Federal Reserve Banks' printing presses are still in perfect running order and can turn out millions of paper dollars as fast as needed whenever they are actually needed; but for a season at least everybody must refrain from borrowing except for legitimate needs. If you want to borrow on an automobile, nothing doing! If you want to mortgage your home, wait a while!

In meantime the banks in this city were never in a more flourishing condition. The resources of the First & Citizens National Bank jumped from \$2,375,000 in June 1917 to \$4,100,000 in June 1920, an increase of \$1,725,000 in three years.

The resources of the Savings Bank & Trust Co. have more than trebled in the same three year period, jumping from \$600,000 in 1917 to nearly \$2,000,000 at this time. The growth of this bank has been most phenomenal in recent months, their deposits increasing from \$1,000,000 to nearly \$1,500,000 within the past 60 days. This bank has handled more than a half million dollars of potato sales money alone within the past three weeks.

GETTING GOOD WATER FROM NEW FILTER

Wonderful Improvement in City Water
Following Installation of Modern
Plant

During the past week a remarkable improvement in the color of the city water here has been the subject of much comment among the people. The brown, dirty-looking stuff which formerly flowed through the city water mains, and which even some horses refused to drink, has been succeeded by a product usually as clear as crystal, and like distilled water to the taste. Water company officials, however, warn that a slight darkening of color may be noticeable soon, for the reason that the alum supply of the company is running short, and it is practically impossible to get more at this time, due to the inability of the manufacturers to get the raw material of which alum is a by-product. No alarm need be felt on this ground as to the purity of the water, since the alum is simply used to remove vegetable discoloration, and the newly-installed filtration plant, which guarantees a water supply that is absolutely free from bacteria and solid matter.

With its recent additions and improvements, the city water plant has a normal capacity of a million gallons of thoroughly purified water per day. This can be raised to a million and a half gallons maximum output. Two powerful pumping engines are used in conveying the water from Knobs Creek to the plant, and in forcing it through the city mains. Before the water reaches the first tank, coagulants consisting of alum and soda ash are mixed with it by means of pipes 100 feet apart, connecting with the intake pipe and flows over an aerator. The water passes slowly through this first tank, which has a capacity of 65,000 gallons, and here the soda and alum are thoroughly mixed with it, some of the color and bacteria being deposited here. After two hours in this tank, the water flows into a 300,000-gallon sedimentation tank, in which 80 per cent of the coloring matter and bacterial content settles out. Next the water goes into the new and recently-installed filter, which includes two filtration tanks with a total normal capacity of 1,000,000 gallons per day. The latter are rectangular concrete basins, 12 by 15 feet, and eight feet deep. The strainer system is used, with cast-iron laterals and bronze strainers six inches apart both ways, under an 18-inch bed of gravel, which in turn is covered by a 30-inch layer of carefully screened and graded sand. The remaining color and nearly all bacteria are removed here. When the filters become clogged with impurities, a simple reversing of the flow of the water effectively cleans them in five minutes.

Practically all impurities of all kinds are removed in the filtration tanks just described, but as an added safeguard the water is next treated with chlorine gas—the kind often used in gas attacks during the world war—in proportions of about one and a half pounds per million gallons of water. This immediately oxidizes all spore-forming bacteria dangerous to humans, and completely sterilizes the water. Bacteriological tests conducted by experts last week showed that, while the water as pumped from Knobs Creek contained 267 parts of color per million parts of water, the filtered water was absolutely colorless, and the bacterial count was reduced from 500 per cubic centimeter, to 10 per cu.-cm. after filtration and before chlorination.

Especial attention is called to the fact that all chemicals used in the purification of the water are removed before the water reaches the consumer. Raw water contains certain chemicals which unite with those used to purify it, and coagulate, or to explain more clearly, precipitate and settle to the bottom of the various tanks, upon the same principle by which coffee grounds settle out when the white of an egg is dropped into the coffee pot by the housewife. Except in point of size, the city water plant is now absolutely as modern and up to date as any in the United States, water company officials state, and the people of this city are being supplied with city water which is as pure as can be had anywhere. And, too, as long as sufficient alum can be obtained, the water will continue to be as clear and pleasing to the aesthetic sense as it is today.